

REMARKS

In response to the Office Action mailed 10 August 2005, the Applicant respectfully requests the Examiner to reconsider the above-captioned application in view of the above amendments and the following comments. This amendment is made to accompany a Request for Continued Examination under 37 C.F.R. 1.114, which the Applicant hereby requests.

Claims 1-21 were previously pending in this application. The Examiner has rejected all of the pending Claims. With the above amendment, the Applicant has amended Claims 1, 4, 13 and 14, and canceled Claims 3, 19 and 21. With these amendments, the Applicant believes that all of the Examiner's rejections have been addressed (as will be discussed further below). Reconsideration of this claim set as amended is respectfully requested.

Response to Drawing Objections:

The Examiner has objected to the drawings because of a misspelling in Figure 3. In order to address and overcome this objection, new drawings are submitted herewith that correct the misspelling. The Applicant submits that these new drawings overcome the grounds for objection that the Examiner has raised, and respectfully requests that the Examiner enter these new drawings into the application and withdraw the drawing objection.

Claim Rejection under 35 U.S.C. §112

The Examiner has rejected Claim 14 as being indefinite. In order to address the ambiguity in the claim, the Applicant has amended Claim 14 to specifically note that it is the *object* that further comprises executable code, rather than the *protocol*. With this amendment, any indefiniteness found in the claim has been addressed, and the Applicant respectfully requests that the Examiner withdraw the rejection under §112 from Claim 14.

Claim Objections

The Examiner has objected to Claims 13, 14 and 21 because of informalities related to the use of the abbreviation "OSI" for "open system interconnection". Claim 21 has been canceled. In order to address this concern in Claims 13 and 14, the Applicant has amended these claims in accordance with the Examiner's suggestions, such that the full term, followed by its abbreviation ("open system interconnection (OSI)") is used the first time this term is introduced in any claim family.

The Applicant believes that these amendments address the informalities that form the grounds for the Examiner's objections, and respectfully requests that the Examiner withdraw these objections to Claims 13 and 14.

Allowable Subject Matter

The Applicant would like to thank the Examiner for the indication that Claims 19 and 20 as presented are drawn to allowable subject matter, but depend from rejected base Claim 14. The Applicant has incorporated the essential elements of Claim 19 and its base claim into each of the independent claims of the case, as will be discussed further below.

Rejection of Claims under 35 U.S.C. §102 over U.S. Patent 6,529,706

The Examiner has rejected independent Claims 1, 13, 14 and 21, as well as Claims 2-12 and 15-20 which depend from Claims 1 and 14, as being anticipated under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) by U.S. Patent No. 6,529,706 to Mitchell (hereinafter "Mitchell").

In order to address the rejections of the independent claims, the Applicant has taken the elements recited in previously pending Claim 19, which the Examiner indicated was drawn to allowable subject matter, and has incorporated these elements into each of independent Claims 1, 13 and 14. Independent Claim 21 has been canceled.

Once these elements were incorporated into the independent claims, dependent claims 3 and 19 were canceled, as they recited limitations already present in the amended independent claims from which these claims depended (Claims 1 and 14, respectively).

With these amendments, the Applicant submits that all of the independent claims are drawn to subject matter that the Examiner has previously indicated was allowable. The Applicant therefore respectfully submits that the application is in a condition for

Application No. 09/584,955
Amendment dated 1 November 2005
Reply to Office Action of 10 August 2005

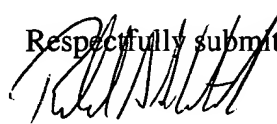
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allowance, and requests that the Examiner withdraw the outstanding rejection under §102 to the pending claims.

CONCLUSION

In light of the amendment and remarks presented herein, Applicant submits that the case is in condition for immediate allowance and respectfully requests such action. If any issues remain unresolved, the Examiner is invited to telephone the Applicant's counsel at the number provided below so that a resolution can be most effectively reached.

Respectfully submitted,



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1 Nov 2005
Date